

CLAIMS

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- 5 1. Topical cosmetic compositions for application to the skin comprising a suitable diluent or carrier in combination with a synergistic mixture of three anti-free-radical agents selected from
- (a) ascorbic acid, its salts, esters, glucosides and glucosamines;
(b) tocopherol and its esters; and
10 (c) herbal extracts selected from ginkgo biloba, morus alba, origanum vulgare, panax ginseng, rosmarinus officinalis, birch extract, camellia sinensis, acerola cherry powder and grape seed oil.
- 15 2. Topical compositions as claimed in claim 1 wherein the esters of ascorbic acid are sodium ascorbyl phosphate, magnesium ascorbyl phosphate, magnesium ascorbyl phosphate or magnesium ascorbyl palmitate.
- 20 3. Topical compositions as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the ester of tocopherol is tocopherol acetate.
4. Topical compositions as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the total amount of anti-free-radical agents present lies in the range 0.001 to 10% by weight.
- 25 5. Topical compositions as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the total amount of anti-free-radical agents present lies in the range 0.5 to 5% by weight.
6. Topical compositions as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the total amount of anti-free-radical agents present lies in the range 1 to 2% by weight.
- 30 7. Topical compositions as claimed in any preceding claims where the synergistic combination of anti-free-radicals comprises (a) panax ginseng, (b) morus alba and (c) magnesium ascorbyl phosphate, sodium ascorbyl phosphate, rosmarinus officinalis or origanum vulgare.
- 35 8. Topical compositions as claimed in claim 7 wherein (a) panax ginseng is present in an amount of 0.005 to 0.1% by weight of the composition; (b) the

5 morus alba is present in an amount of 0.0005 to 0.01% by weight of the composition; (c) the sodium or magnesium ascorbyl phosphate is present in an amount from 0.05 to 2.5% by weight of the composition; and (d) the rosmarinus officinalis or organum vulgare is present in an amount of 0.01 to 0.1% by weight of the composition.

10 9. Topical compositions as claimed in claim 7 wherein panax ginseng is present in an amount of 0.01 to 0.05% by weight of the composition; (b) the morus alba is present in an amount of 0.001 to 0.005% by weight of the composition; (c) the sodium or magnesium ascorbyl phosphate is present in an amount from 0.1 to 2% by weight of the composition; and (d) the rosmarinus officinalis or organum vulgare is present in an amount of 0.05 to 0.2% by weight of the composition.

15 10. Topical compositions as claimed in claim 7 wherein (a) panax ginseng is present in an amount of about 0.03% by weight of the composition; (b) the morus alba is present in an amount of about 0.0023% by weight of the composition; (c) the sodium or magnesium ascorbyl phosphate is present in an amount from 0.15 to 1.5% by weight of the composition; and (d) the rosmarinus
20 officinalis or organum vulgare is present in an amount of about 0.1% by weight of the composition.